the transmission service providers have been issued on 6.10.2008 and 20.10.2008. The response from the private players to the RfQs issued by REC have been highly encouraging, with over 13 firms participating.

(b) An integrated National Grid interconnecting all the five regional grids to facilitate transfer of power from surplus to deficit regions is already in operation. The development of a National Grid is a continuous process and its capacity gets enhanced progressively with addition of generation projects and requirement of power transfer. At present, the inter-regional power transfer capacity of the National Grid is about 17,000 MW. The capacity of the National Grid is being augmented/enhanced progressively through development of various inter-regional links matching with generation capacity addition as well as to take care of the increased power transfer requirement across the country.

Status of NTPC power projects

2266. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the zero date for commencement of NTPC power projects at Barh, North Karanpura, Sipat, Kawas Stage-II and Gandhar Stage-II;

(b) the scheduled dates of commissioning of the above projects;

(c) the present status of commissioning and commercial production of the above projects;

(d) the detailed reasons for delay in commissioning the projects, project-wise; and

(e) the total power generation envisaged from the above plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (e) (i) Barh Super Thermal Power Project (STPP) Stage-I (1980 MW), Barh STPP Stage-II (1320 MW) in Bihar and Sipat STPP Stage-I (1980 MW) in Chhattishgarh are under Construction. Both the units of Sipat STPP Stage-II (2x500 MW) have already been commissioned.

(ii) The main plants for the projects Kawas Combind Cycle Power Project (CCPP) Stage-II (1300 MW) and Jhanor-Gandhar CCPP Stage-II (1300 MW) in Gujarat and North Karanpura STPP (1980 MW) in Jharkhand are yet to be awarded.

Project-wise, details including Capacity, Zero Date, Commissioning Schedule, Anticipated Date, Present Status and Reasons for Delay are given in the Statement.

Statement

Status of Barh and Sipat STPP Projects under construction/commissioned)

Sl. No.	Project, Capacity and Zero Date	Project Commissioning		Present Status
		Schedule	Anticipated	
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Barh-I (3×660 MW) (Mar.'05)	2010-11	2011-12*	The works are in progress in Main Power House Building, CW System, Cooling Tower, Chimney, Coal Handling Plant and

1	2	3	4	5
				other offsite areas of the Project. In case of Steam Generator and Auxiliaries Package, supply of Boiler structures have commenced and 22,503 MT out of 37,523 MT of Unit-1 materials have been supplied, but M/s. Technopromexport, Russia are declining to take up the erection activities of Steam Generator Package. The Agency is seeking removal of Price escalation ceiling and also revision in work completion schedule. NTPC had issued notice to the agency to start the boiler erection work immediately, failing which the communication to be treated as adjudication notice. As the agency opted for adjudication, Adjudicator was appointed on 10.10.2008. Adjudicator has given award on 28.11.2008. The agency has now been called for discussions to resolve the issue.
2.	Barh-II (2×660 MW) (Oct.'08)	2013-14	2012-13*	As per Investment approval Commercial Operation Date (COD) of Barh-II is 51 months from Main Plant Award and 2nd unit 10 months thereafter. Main Plant consists of Steam Generator Package awarded in Mar. '08 and Steam Turbine Generator Package awarded in Oct. '08. Piling Works have commenced in Sep. '08. The Progress of other project activities is as per target. First Unit commissioning is anticipated in 2011-12.
3.	Sipat-I (3×660 MW) (Apr.'04)	2009-10	2009-10	Work of Air Preheater (APH) ducting, fans *etc.* is in progress. Fund problem of Power Machines, Russia is affecting the pace of progress. They are being persuaded to mobilize expatriate supervision team for Turbine Erection. Generator stater has reached site and placed on foundation. Hydro Test of Boiler # 2 was achieved in Jul. '07. Boiler # 3 is ready for Hydro test and balance erection is in progress.

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Sipat-II (2×500 MW) (Dec.'03)	2007-08	Already Commiss-ioned	lst Unit is under commercial operation since June '08. 2nd unit is commissioned in Aug. '08. Balance works relating to coal and Ash system are nearing completion. COD is targeted shortly. Major reason for the delay is civil works and equipment supplies besides stoppage of water by Water Resources Department Chhattisgarh.

*On Best effort basis.

Note: Commercial operation is within 6 months from Commissioning of respective units.

Status of Kawas CCPP-II, Gandhar CCPP-II and North Karanpura STPP Project
(Projects for which Main Plants are yet to be awarded)

Sl. No.	Project and Capacity	Comm. Schedule	Present	Reasons for not awarding MP contract
1.	Kawas CCPP-II (2x650 MW) and Gandhar CCPP-II (2×650 MW)	XI Plan	All the required clearances including environmental clear-ances from MOEF are available.	The projects are held up for want of fuel (Gas). NTPC had awarded a contract on RIL for supply of Gas. However, RIL has not signed the agreement and the matter is subjudice in Bombay High court for resolution.
2.	North Karanpura STPP (3 x 660 MW)	XI*/XII Plan Period	All the requisite clearances/commit-ments including environmental clearance for the project have been obtained. The water require-ment of the power project is to be met from the Dam/Reser-voir across Garhi river to be constructed by Government of Jharkhand.	The critical issues for delay in the project are:— • Delay in land acquisition and handing over possession of land to NTPC by Goverment of Jharkhand. • Delay in placement of Main Plant Award due to many Technical and commercial deviations taken by foreign bidder. • Delay in construction of Garhi Dam by Government of Jharkhand. • Forest clearance for the Dam is pending due to delay in identification of non-notified forest land for compensatory afforestation.

*On Best effort basis.